

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111
U.S. Appln. No. 09/242,490

large in cross sectional area as the first ink supply path, and the first open end of the first ink supply path forms an axial terminus of the second ink supply path; and

a protrusion and/or groove axially provided to the second ink supply path, wherein the protrusion and/or groove axially extends along the second ink supply path and axially terminates at the first open end of the first ink supply path,

wherein the first ink supply path axially terminates at a longitudinal axis of the first ink supply path,

wherein the longitudinal axis of the first ink supply path is substantially parallel to a longitudinal axis of the second ink supply path, and

wherein the first ink supply path is located upstream of the second ink supply path in a direction in which ink is supplied from the ink cartridge to the recording head.

22. (Once amended) An ink supply passage structure comprising:

a first ink supply path having a first open end, wherein said first ink supply path axially terminates at the first open end,

a second ink supply path connected to and extending from the first open end to be communicated with the first ink supply path, wherein the second ink supply path is at least as large in cross sectional area as the first ink supply path, and the first open end of the first ink supply path forms an axial terminus of the second ink supply path; and

a protrusion and/or groove axially provided to the second ink supply path, wherein the protrusion and/or groove is contiguous to at least the first open end of the first ink supply path,

Sub #1 Cont.
wherein the first ink supply path axially terminates at a longitudinal axis of the first ink supply path,
wherein the longitudinal axis of the first ink supply path is substantially parallel to a longitudinal axis of the second ink supply path, and
wherein the protrusion and/or groove axially extends from the second ink supply path, across the first open end, and into the first ink supply path.

G2 cont.
23. (Once amended) An ink supply passage structure according to claim 20, wherein a portion of the second ink supply path containing the protrusion and/or groove is in the form of a conical chamber.

Sub #2
24. (Once amended) An ink supply passage structure comprising:
a first ink supply path having a first open end, wherein said first ink supply path axially terminates at the first open end;
a second ink supply path connected to and extending from the first open end to be communicated with the first ink supply path, wherein the second ink supply path is at least as large in cross sectional area as the first ink supply path, and the first open end of the first ink supply path forms an axial terminus of the second ink supply path;
a protrusion and/or groove axially provided to the second ink supply path, wherein the protrusion and/or groove is contiguous to at least the first open end of the first ink supply path,
wherein the first ink supply path axially terminates at a longitudinal axis of the first ink supply path, and

Sub
G 2 H 2
10/1/01 cont

wherein the longitudinal axis of the first ink supply path is substantially parallel to a longitudinal axis of the second ink supply path; and

a filter located at an opposite axial terminus of the second ink supply path, wherein said opposite axial terminus is opposite to said axial terminal of the second ink supply path.

Please add the following new claim.

Sub
G 2 H 3
10/1/01 cont

29. (New) An ink supply passage structure for supplying ink from an ink cartridge to a recording head, comprising:

a first ink supply path having a first open end, wherein said first ink supply path axially terminates at the first open end;

a second ink supply path connected to and extending from the first open end to be communicated with the first ink supply path, wherein the second ink supply path is at least as large in cross sectional area as the first ink supply path, and the first open end of the first ink supply path forms an axial terminus of the second ink supply path; and

a protrusion and/or groove axially provided to the second ink supply path, wherein the protrusion and/or groove axially extends along the second ink supply path and is contiguous to at least the first open end of the first ink supply path,

wherein the first ink supply path axially terminates at a longitudinal axis of the first ink supply path,

wherein the longitudinal axis of the first ink supply path is substantially parallel to a longitudinal axis of the second ink supply path,